STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

Design and Engineering Services - Southeast Region Preconstruction - Preliminary Design & Environmental SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

6860 GLACIER HIGHWAY P.O. Box 112506

JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-2506 PHONE: (907) 465-4524 TEXT: (907) 465-4647 FAX: (907) 465-3506

December 19, 2006

Re: Pelican Boardwalk Repair Project

No: 69216

Requested Action: Environmental

Document Approval

Mike McKinnon Transportation Administrator Denali Commission 510 L Street, Suite 410 Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Mr. McKinnon:

On behalf of the federal Denali Commission, as described in the Memorandum of Agreement of August 2006, the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has completed environmental scoping and signed a Categorical Exclusion environmental document. DOT&PF has determined that the Pelican Boardwalk Repair project will not have adverse effects on federally protected resources under NEPA. This is the first environmental document prepared by Southeast Region DOT&PF for the Denali Commission.

Please review and sign the enclosed documents to indicate your approval, and return one copy to DOT&PF. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Anderson at 465-4509 or at mark_anderson@dot.state.ak.us.

Sincerely,

Ben White

Acting Environmental Coordinator

Enclosure:

Categorical Exclusion NEPA Document (2 copies)

cc: Mark Anderson, Environmental Impact Analyst, DOT&PF

Jim Evensen, PD&E Group Chief, DOT&PF



State of Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Statewide Design & Engineering Services

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION FORM

Project Name: Pelican Boardwalk Repair Project Number (state/federal): 69216

Date: December 19, 2006

I. **Purpose of Project**

The purpose of this project is to use Denali Commission funding to replace failing members of the extensive boardwalk in the community of Pelican as recommended by the Inspection and Condition Assessment prepared for DOT&PF by Peratrovich, Nottingham and Drage, Inc. Portions of the Pelican Boardwalk are over 50 years old. The boardwalk is in fair to poor condition and improvements are needed to ensure the safety of the traveling public in the future. The members to be replaced are damaged or have succumbed to dry rot.

II. **Project Description**

The project would replace 17 pilings, 17 pairs of cross braces, 14 pile caps and pipe supports and at least 7 sets of stringers. All of these members are pressure creosote treated wood and would be replaced in-kind with pressure treated creosote wood. The pilings would require a concrete footing, since pile driving would not be feasible under the existing boardwalk. All construction would be within the present limits of the boardwalk structure. Project graphics are attached in Appendix A.

Ш. **Environmental Consequences**

Complete the following. For each yes, summarize the activity evaluated and the magnitude of the impact and the potential for significant impact based on context and intensity. An alternatives analysis (e.g. Avoidance and Minimization Checklist) is required for any consequence category with an asterisk (*). Summarize impacts in this form with detailed analysis attached as appropriate.

A.	Ri	ght-of-Way Impacts	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1.	Ad	Additional right-of-way required.			\boxtimes
	a.	Permanent easements required.			\boxtimes
	b.	Estimated number of parcels: <u>0</u> Full or partial property acquisition required.			\boxtimes
	c.	Estimated number of parcels: <u>0</u> Property transfer from state or federal agency required. List agencies in No. 3 below.			\boxtimes
	d.	Business or residential relocations required. If yes, summarize the findings of th conceptual stage relocation study in No. 3, below and attach the conceptual relocation study.	e 🗌	*	
		No. of relocations: <u>0</u>			
		Type of relocation: Residential: Business: Residential (Indicate number:)			
Ca	tea	orical Exclusion Documentation 1	Effective Da	te: May 2	6, 2005

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

Project Name: Pelican Boardwalk Repair Project Number (state/federal): 69216

	Business (Indicate number:)			
	e. Last-resort housing required.			\boxtimes
2.	Low-income and minority populations are disproportionately high and adversely affected by the project as defined in E.O. 12898 (DOT Order 6640.23, December 1998).			
3.	Summarize impact.			
	·	•		
В.	Social Impacts	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1.	The project will affect neighborhoods or community cohesion.			\boxtimes
2.	The project will affect travel patterns and accessibility (e.g. vehicular, commuter, bicycle, or pedestrian).			\boxtimes
3.	The project will affect school boundaries, recreation areas, churches, businesses, police and fire protection, etc. Include the direct and indirect impacts from the displacement of businesses in the analysis.			\boxtimes
4.	The project will adversely affect the elderly, handicapped, nondrivers, transit-dependent, minority and ethnic groups, or the economically disadvantaged.			\boxtimes
5.				
_		N/A	<u>YES</u>	NO
C.	Economic Impacts The project will have economic impacts on the regional and/or local economy, such as		\Box	\boxtimes
1.	effects on development, tax revenues and public expenditures, employment opportunities, accessibility, and retail sales.	LJ	! !	<u>(C.3</u>
2.	The project will affect established businesses or business districts.			\boxtimes
3.	Summarize impacts, if any.			
		27/1		1.00
D.	Local Land Use and Transportation Plan	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1.	Project is consistent with local land use plan.		\bowtie	
2.	Project is consistent with local transportation plan.		\boxtimes	
3.	Project would induce adverse secondary and cumulative effects.			\boxtimes
4.	Summarize any adverse effect on the local transportation and land use plan, including sumulative effects.	secondary	and	
		<u>N/A</u>	YES	<u>NO</u>
	Impacts to Historic Properties National Register-listed or eligible properties are in area of potential effect. If yes,			
1.	consult with FHWA.	,Ш	الحكا	

E	Impacts to Historic Properties	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
2.	There will be an adverse effect on a historic property. If yes, consult with FHWA, summarize alternatives evaluated, attach SHPO correspondence, and attach signed MOA).		*	\boxtimes
3.	This project has no potential to cause effect to historic properties. Formal review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is not required per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1). If yes, consult with FHWA. Attach SHPO and other appropriate correspondence as appropriate.	\boxtimes		
4.	Summarize impacts to historic properties.			
(SI tha me	PO responded to the COE Preconstruction Notice on September 28, 2006 stating that the T-711) is potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. To this repair project would not adversely affect the Pelican Boardwalk as long as the dame to mbers were replaced with in-kind materials. This is the reason for DOT&PF insistence atted wood for pilings and other wooden members.	he SHPC aged woo) also sta oden	ated
172	XXI - 41 d. a Trong a sta	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1.	Wetlands Impacts Project involves wetlands as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). If yes, document public and agency coordination required per E.O. 11990, Protection of Wetlands.		*	
2.	Wetlands delineated in accordance with DOT&PF/FHWA/USACE 1992 Permit Accord.	\boxtimes		□.
3.	Estimated area of involvement (i.e. acres):			
4.	Estimated fill quantities (cubic yards):			
5. 6.	Estimated dredge quantities (cubic yards): USACE authorization anticipated: None			
0.	Type: NWP Individual Other			
7.	Summarize wetlands impacts and attach following supporting documentation as approp	oriate:		
	Avoidance and Minimization Checklist.			
	Wetlands Delineation.			
	Jurisdictional Determination.			
	 Copies of public and resource agency letters received in response to the request for 	r comme	nts.	
	Wetlands impacts are as follows:			
8.	Wetlands Finding:	57	_	
	a. Are there practicable alternatives to the proposed construction in wetlands? If yes, the project cannot be approved as proposed.	\boxtimes		
	b. Does the project include all practicable measures to minimize harm to wetlands? If no, the project cannot be approved as proposed. List any commitments and	\boxtimes		

	c.	mitigative measures in Section VII. Only practicable alternative: Based on the evaluation of avoidance and minimization alternatives, there are no practicable alternatives that would avoid the project's impacts on wetlands. The project includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to the affected wetlands as a result of construction. If no, the project cannot be approved as proposed.						
Ĵ.		h and Wildlife	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>			
	An	adromous or resident fish habitat.		*	<u> </u>			
	a.	Adverse effect on spawning habitat.						
	b. c. d.	Adverse effect on rearing habitat. Adverse effect on migration corridors. Adverse effect on subsistence species.		*				
2.	Ess	sential Fish Habitat (EFH).						
	a.	EFH present in project area.	<u> </u>					
	b.	Project proposes construction in EFH. If yes describe EFH impacts in Section G, No. 5.		\boxtimes				
	c. d.	Project may adversely affect EFH. <i>If yes, attach EFH Assessment</i> . Project includes conservation recommendations proposed by NOAA Fisheries. If no, formal notification must be made to NOAA Fisheries. (Summarize the final conservation measures in No. 5 and list in Section VII).		⊠* ⊠				
3.	W	ildlife Resources (game/subsistence species):						
_,	a.	Project is in area of high wildlife/vehicle accidents.			\boxtimes			
		Project would bisect migration corridors.			\boxtimes			
	b. с.	Project would segment habitat.			\boxtimes			
	d.	Project would adversely affect species of concern to Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). If yes, attach appropriate documentation from ADF&G that demonstrates the project would not result in significant adverse impacts.		*	\boxtimes			
4.	Ва	ald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act			K3			
	a.	Project slope limits are within 660 feet of eagle nesting tree. If yes, consult USF&WS and attach documentation of consultation.		*	\boxtimes			
	b.	Project would adversely affect eagles or their nests. If yes, project cannot be approved as proposed.		zic	\boxtimes			
5.	Sı	immarize adverse fish and wildlife impacts.						
No or	No anadromous fish streams, as identified in An Atlas to the Catalog of Water Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes, would be affected by the proposed project.							
2.0	Lisianski Inlet is designated as Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and provides habitat for herring, sculpins and migrating adult and juvenile salmon. As this project may adversely affect EFH, DOT&PF has prepared an EFH assessment for National Marine Fisheries							

Categorical Exclusion Documentation
Project Name: Pelican Boardwalk Repair
Project Number (state/federal): 69216

Service review.

NMFS and DNR OHMP questioned the use of creosote treated wood pilings in salt water contact areas. DOT&PF replied that it is required by SHPO for in-kind repair work on a historic property. DEC commented that they have no water quality concerns as long as we follow NWP-3, specifically Regional Condition B. The cupric treatments suggested by NMFS have comparable toxicity to marine life and are not recommended over creosote in a recent study on wood treatment alternatives in San Francisco Bay. EFH correspondence is attached in Appendix B. Other agency and public correspondence is attached in Appendix D.

Н.	Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E)	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>					
1.	Listed threatened or endangered species present.			\boxtimes					
 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 	Threatened or endangered species migrate through the project area. Proposed species present in project area. Candidate species present in project area. Project not likely to adversely affect T&E species. If yes, go to Section I. Project may adversely affect T&E species. If yes, attach biological assessment and the appropriate documentation from agency with jurisdiction. Project would jeopardize a T&E species. If yes the project cannot be approved as proposed. Summarize the findings of the biological assessment and the opinion of the agency wi								
I. 1.	Water Body Involvement Project affects a water body.	<u>N/A</u>	YES ⊠*	<u>NO</u>					
2.	Project affects a navigable water body as defined by USCG, (i.e. Section 9). Project affects Waters of the U.S. (as defined by the Corps), Section 404. Project affects Navigable Waters of the U.S. (as defined by the Corps) Section 10.		□* ⊠* ⊠*						
4.5.6.	Project affects a resident fish stream (i.e. A.S. 41.14.840) Project affects a cataloged anadromous fish stream (i.e. A.S. 41.14.870).			\boxtimes					
7.	Project affects a designated Wild and Scenic River or land adjacent to a Wild and Scenic River. If yes, Regional Environmental Coordinator must consult with the FHWA Environmental Program Manager to determine applicability of Section 4(f).								
8.	Proposed river or stream involvement: Bridge Culvert Embankment Relocation Diversion Permanent N/A								
´9.	Type of stream or river habitat impacted: Spawning Rearing Pool Undercut bank N/A	Riffle 🗌							
10	Amount of fill below: OHW <u>0.0</u> MHW <u>0.0</u> HTL <u>0.001</u>								
11 Pla	11. Summarize impacts: Placing piling footings would impact sub-tidal marine Waters of the U.S. in Lisianski Inlet, requiring								

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

Project Name: Pelican Boardwalk Repair Project Number (state/federal): 69216

authorization by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (COE). The project requires a small amount of excavation and fill. DOT&PF has minimized the footprint of the project to include only the piles most in need of repair. The COE verified the authorization under NWP 3, Maintenance (Appendix C).

J. 1.	Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) Project is within the Alaska Coastal Management Program boundary.	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	NO
2.	Project is within a local coastal management district. If yes, consult with the local coastal management official and attach correspondence.			\boxtimes
3.	Project is consistent with local and state coastal management plans. If no, the project cannot be approved as proposed.		\boxtimes	
4.	Finding:			
		N/A	YES	<u>NO</u>
K. 1.	Hazardous Waste (HW) There are known or potentially contaminated sites along the corridor.			\boxtimes
 3. 4. 5. 	The existing and/or proposed ROW is contaminated. Extensive excavation is proposed adjacent to, or within, a known HW site. Potential for encountering hazardous waste during construction is high. Summarize impacts of any yes marked in 1-4 and attach appropriate HW investigation respectively.	□ □ eport.	*	
L. 1.	Air Quality (Conformity) The project is located in an air quality maintenance area or nonattainment area (CO or PM-10). If yes, indicate CO or PM-10 and complete the remainder of this section. If no, continue to next section.	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
2.	If applicable, the project is included in a conforming Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (state dates of FHWA/FTA conformity determination). Date:			
3.	The project is exempt from an air quality analysis per 40 CFR 93.126 (Table 2 and Exempt Projects). If yes, continue to next section. If no, complete the remainder of this section. Note: A project-level air quality conformity analysis is required for CO nonattainment and maintenance areas and a qualitative project-level analysis is required for PM-10 nonattainment and maintenance areas.			
4.	Have there been any significant changes in the design, concept, and/or scope as discussed in the most recent conforming TIP and LRTP? If yes, describe changes in No. 7. In addition, the project must satisfy the conformity rule's requirements for projects not from a plan and TIP, or the plan and TIP must be modified to incorporate the revised project (including a new conformity analysis).			
5.	If required, a CO project-level analysis was completed meeting the requirements of Section 93.123 of the conformity rule. The results satisfy the requirements of Section 93.116(a) for maintenance areas or 93.116(b) for nonattainment areas. Attach a copy of the analysis.			

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

Project Number (state/federal): 69216

L. 6. 7.	Air Quality (Conformity) If required, a PM-10 project-level air quality analysis was completed meeting the requirements of Section 93.123 of the conformity rule. The results satisfy the requirements of Section 93.116(a). (The thresholds are different for PM-10 than they are for CO). Attach a copy of the analysis. Summarize air quality impacts:	<u>N/A</u>	YES	<u>NO</u>
M. 1.	Floodplains Impacts (23 CFR Part 650, Subpart A) Project encroaches longitudinally into the 100-year floodplain (i.e. base floodplain in fresh or marine waters). If yes, public comments on the action must be requested and comments received attached. Summarize the findings and attach the "Location Hydraulic Study" developed per 23 CFR 650.111.	<u>N/A</u>	YES	<u>NO</u>
2.	Project encroaches into a regulatory floodway. If yes attach the location hydraulic study.		*	\boxtimes
3.	The proposed action would increase the base flood elevation one-foot or greater. If yes attach the location hydraulic study.		- California	
4.	The encroachment is significant as defined by 23CFR 650.105. If yes, the project cannot be approved as proposed without a finding that the proposed action is the "Only Practicable Alternative" as defined in 23 CFR 650.113. Attach the finding for FHWA approval.			
5.	Project conforms to local flood hazard ordinances. If no, consult with FHWA.	\boxtimes		
6.	Project is consistent with E.O. 11988 (Floodplain Protection). If no the project cannot be approved as proposed.		\boxtimes	
7.	Summarize risk and adverse floodplain impacts:			
N.	Noise Impact (23 CFR Part 772)	<u>N/A</u>	YES	
1.	There are noise-sensitive receivers/land uses adjacent to the proposed project. If yes attach the noise analysis, if applicable. If no, go to section "O".			\boxtimes
	Category A: There are adjacent lands where serenity and quiet are of extraordinary significance and serve an important public need and where the preservation of those qualities is essential if the area is to continue to serve its intended purpose.			\boxtimes
•	Category B: There are adjacent picnic areas, recreation areas, playgrounds, active sports areas, parks, residences, hotels, motels, schools, churches, libraries, or hospitals.			
	Category C: There are adjacent developed lands, properties, or activities not included in categories A or B above. This would include commercial properties.			
2.	The project is located on new location, would result in substantial changes in vertical or horizontal alignment, or would increase the number of through lanes. If yes, a noise analysis is required. If not, go to Section O.	e		

N.	Noise Impact (23 CFR Part 772)	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
3.	There is an existing noise impact.			
4.	The project would create a noise impact.			
5.	Noise analysis demonstrates potential noise impacts.			
6.	There are feasible and reasonable measures that can reduce noise impacts.			
7.	The noise abatement measures listed in 23 CFR 772.13(c)(1-5) have been considered for those receivers where a noise impact would occur.			
8.	Summarize noise impact and abatement measures considered, if applicable.			
	order to reduce impacts to fish, no work will be done below the high tide line from April window for herring spawning and juvenile salmon outmigration.	1 to June	15 durii	ng
o.	Water Quality Impact	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1.	Project would involve a public or private drinking source. If yes, explain in no. 7.			\boxtimes
2.	Project would result in a discharge of storm water to a Waters of the U.S.			\boxtimes
3.	Project would discharge storm water into or affect an ADEC designated impaired water body. If yes, list in no. 4 and describe in no. 7.			\boxtimes
4.	List name(s) and location(s).			
5.	Estimate the acreage of ground-disturbing activities that will result from the project?			
_	<u><0.01</u> acres	 3	 3	
6.	Is there a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) NPDES permit, or will runoff be mixed with discharges from an NPDES permitted industrial facility? If yes, NPDES permit #:			\boxtimes
7.	Summarize the impacts of any "yes" marked in Section O.			
		<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
	Permits and Authorizations	7.77.7		110
ı.	Corps, Section 404/10		\boxtimes	
2.	Coast Guard, Section 9			\boxtimes
3.	Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Fish Habitat Permit (T41.870 and .840)			\boxtimes
4.	Flood Hazard			
5.	Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Non-domestic Wastewater Plan Approval.	***************************************		
6.	ADEC 401			\boxtimes
7.	DNR, ACMP consistency			
8.	Other. If yes, list.			\boxtimes
	T&PF has authorization from the COE under Nationwide Permit 3, Maintenance, to placings in inter-tidal Waters of the U.S.	e rooting	s for 17	

8

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

Project Name: Pelican Boardwalk Repair Project Number (state/federal): 69216

IV	. Construction Impacts	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	NO
1.	There will be temporary degradation of water quality.			\boxtimes
2.	There will be temporary stream diversion.		П	\boxtimes
3.	There will be temporary degradation of air quality.		Ħ	\boxtimes
4.	There will be temporary delays and detours of traffic.			
5.	There will be temporary impact on businesses.	Ħ	Ä	\boxtimes
6.	There will be other construction impacts, including noise.	Ħ		
7.	Summarize construction impacts associated with any "yes" in Section IV.			
req	e project would cause minor, temporary construction noise. Some brief delay of boardwuired during construction. However, priority will be given to maintain boardwalk trafficing.		-	
v.	Section 4(f)/6(f)	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1.,	Section 4(f) properties would be affected by the proposed action.			\boxtimes
2.	There would be a "use" of any land from these 4(f) properties.			\boxtimes
3.	The project would affect Section 6(f) properties.			\boxtimes
4.	Funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCFA) were used for improvement to the 4(f) property.		, .	\boxtimes
5.	Is the use of the property receiving LWCFA funds a "conversion of use" per Section 6(f) of the LWCFA? Attach the correspondence received from the ADNR 6(f) Grants Administer. If yes, consult with FHWA.			\boxtimes
6.	Project is adjacent to a Section 4(f) resource. If yes, consult with the FHWA Environmental Programs Manager to determine applicability of "constructive use".			\boxtimes
7.	Summarize the type of involvement. Coordinate with the land manager and attach approximate. Section 4(f) or Section 6(f) Evaluation).	opriate d	locument	ation
VI	. Comments and Coordination	<u>N/A</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1.	Public/agency involvement for project (required if protected resources are involved).		\boxtimes	
2.	Meetings			\boxtimes
3.	Newspaper ads Name of newspaper:			\boxtimes
4.	Scoping letters		\boxtimes	
5.	Scoping meeting			
6.	Field review			\boxtimes
7.	Summarize comments and coordination efforts for this project. Discuss pertinent issue and agency scoping and public meetings. Attach agency correspondence that demonstre that there are no unresolved issues.			
	oping letters were sent to local, state and federal agencies and the appropriate tribal entitolo. NMFS was consulted on Essential Fish Habitat issues. Agency correspondence is a			

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

9

Effective Date: May 26, 2005

N/A YES NO

List environmental commitments or mitigation measures included in the project.

NWP-3, REGIONAL CONDITION B

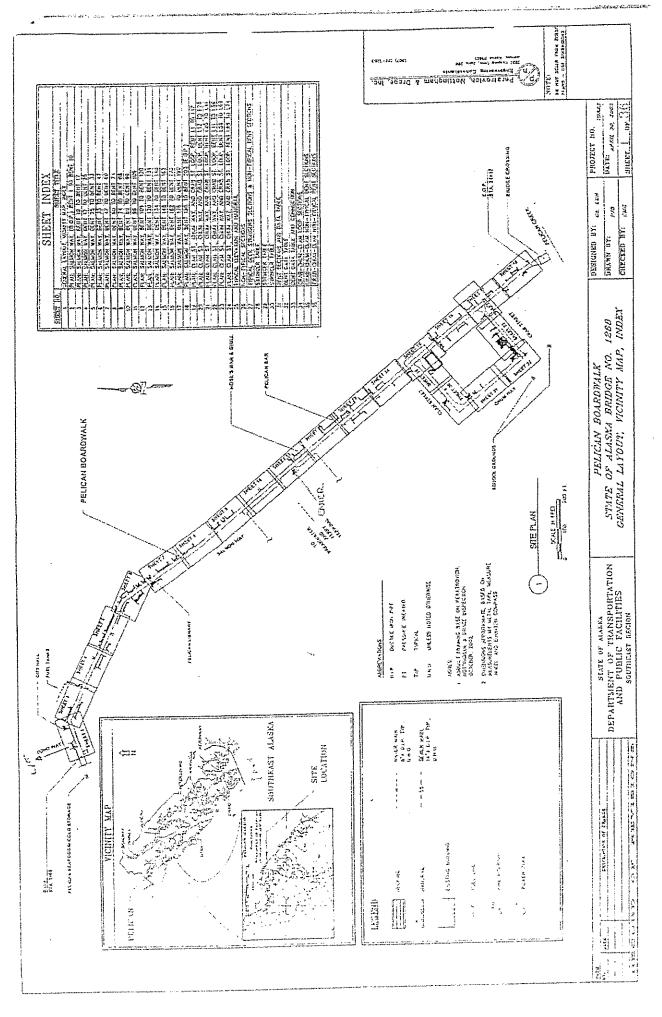
In fresh or marine waters, no pentachlorophenol preservatives may be used on wooden structures. In fresh waters, no creosote may be used on wooden structures. In fresh and marine waters, any preservatives on wooden structures must be applied by pressure injection using a method that prevents leaching (such as those approved by the Western Wood Preserves Institute).

- Construction of the pile footings would occur in accordance with timing recommendations from NOAA
 Fisheries and DNR OHMP to minimize impacts to marine or anadromous fish species. They request that
 no work be done on piling footings from April 1 to June 15 to protect outmigrating salmon smolts and
 rearing juvenile salmon and reduce the potential impact to herring spawning.
- The project contract specifications would include special conditions for implementing and maintaining Best Management Practices (BMPs) during construction to minimize project impacts to water quality.
- The contractor will prepare a Hazardous Materials Control Plan (HMCP) for handling, storage, cleanup, and disposal of petroleum products and hazardous materials needed for the project. The HMCP lists and gives locations and quantities for hazardous materials. The HMCP outlines procedures for prevention, notification, containment, and cleanup measures of spills and lists the types and quantities of equipment and materials for containment and cleanup. The HMCP also includes details dealing with unexpected contamination encountered during construction. The contractor will submit three copies of the HMCP to the engineer at least five days prior to the pre-construction meeting.

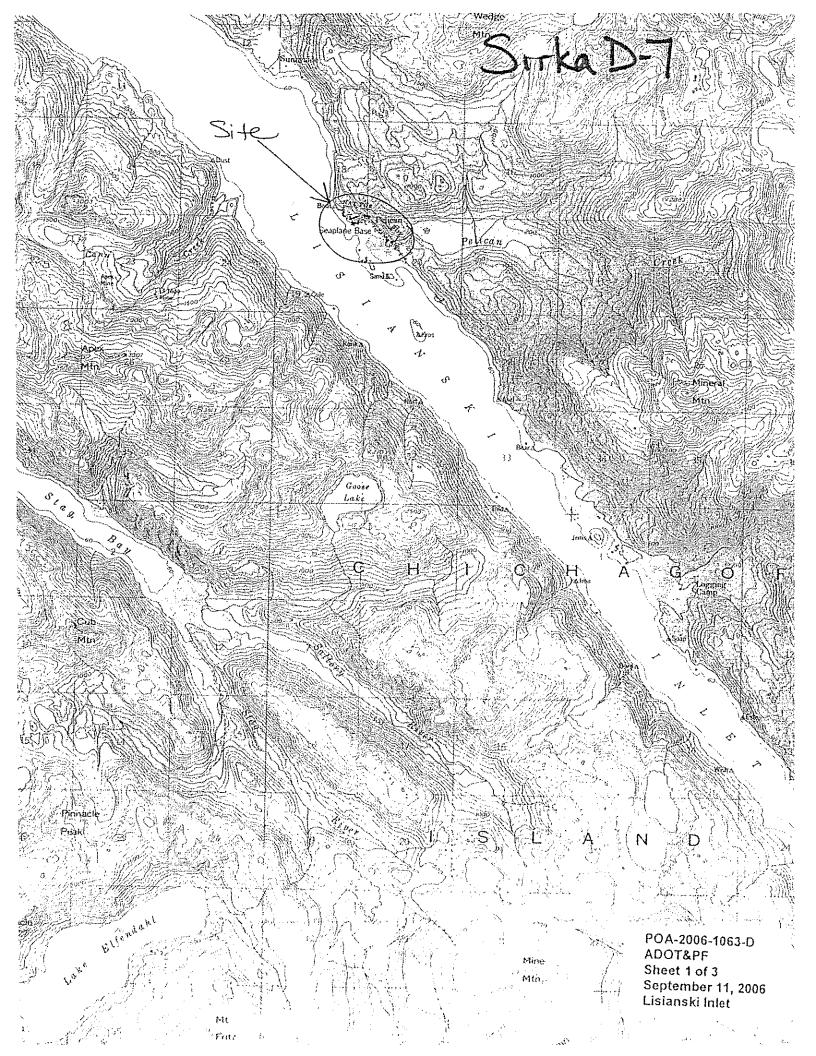
VIII. Environmental Documentation Approval	<u>N/A</u>	· YES	<u>NO</u>
1. Project listed as a CE, per FHWA 23 CFR 771.117(c).	\boxtimes		
2. Project listed as a CE, per FHWA 23 CFR 771.117(d). If no, consult with FHWA,	\boxtimes		
Area Liaison. 3. Project meets the criteria for programmatic approval under a Programmatic CE Agreement between FHWA and DOT&PF.	\boxtimes		
Prepared by: Mark C. Cenderson	Date: <u>Ďec.</u>	19, 2006	
Reviewed by:	Date: <u>Dec.</u>	19, 2006	
Approved by: Regional Environmental Coordinator	Date: <u>Dec.</u>	19. 20 <u>06</u>	
Approved by: Denali Commission	Date:		

APPENDIX A

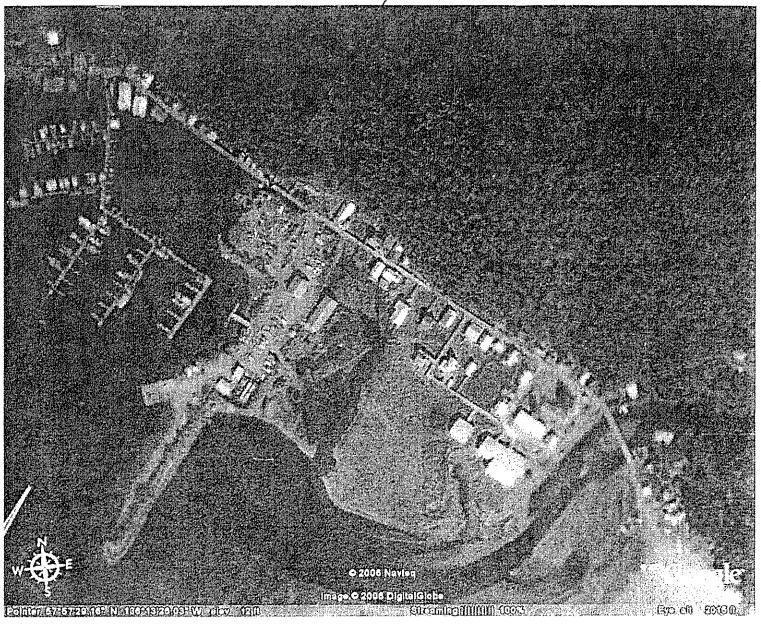
Graphics



POA-2006-1063-D ADOT&PF Sheet 2 of 3 September 11, 2006 Lisianski Inlet



Pelican walk



POA-2006-1063-D ADOT&PF Sheet 3 of 3 September 11, 2006 Lisianski Inlet

APPENDIX B

Essential Fish Habitat

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

Design and Engineering Services – Southeast Region Preconstruction - Preliminary Design & Environmental FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

6860 GLACIER HIGHWAY P.O. Box 112506 JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-2506 PHONE: (907) 465-4524

TEXT: (907) 465-4647 FAX: (907) 465-3506

September 29, 2006

Re: Pelican Boardwalk Repair EFH Assessment

Project Numbers 69216

Robert D. Mecum Acting Administrator, Alaska Region National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802-1668

Dear Mr. Mecum:

On behalf of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has determined that the Pelican Boardwalk Repair project may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Enclosed is the EFH assessment for your consideration. The habitat assessment will be appended to the project environmental document. The EFH determination by ADOT&PF is that the projects, including mitigation measures, would have no substantial individual or cumulative impacts to EFH.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 465-4524 or at mark_anderson@dot.state.ak.us.

Sincerely,

Mark Anderson

Environmental Impact Analyst

Mark, ande

Enclosures:
EFH Assessment
Plan Drawing

cc: John Lohrey, Field Operations Engineer, FHWA, Juneau

Jim Evensen, PD&E Group Chief, DOT&PF

Van Sundberg, Environmental Coordinator, DOT&PF

Essential Fish Habitat Assessment

Pelican Boardwalk Repairs

Project 69216

I. Project Description

With funding assistance from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) proposes to repair the wooden boardwalk in Pelican, Alaska.

The project would replace 17 pilings, 17 pairs of cross braces, 14 pile caps and pipe supports and at least 7 sets of stringers. All of these existing members are pressure creosote treated wood and would be replaced in-kind. The pilings would require concrete footings, since pile driving would not be feasible under the existing boardwalk.

The Pelican boardwalk is located in Lisianski Inlet on Chichagof Island, Township 45 S, Range 57 E, Section 19, Copper River Meridian, approximate Lat. 57.96083* N, Long. -136.2275* W.

II. Analysis of Effect to Essential Fish Habitat

Placing footings for 17 pilings would impact about 180 square feet of tidal Waters of the U.S. The footings would be excavated by hand or with a small backhoe to a two foot depth and a standard square concrete footing poured with a galvanized bolted pile fitting. Excavated material would be mounded back around the pile base over the concrete footing. All excavation and fill work would be done on dewatered tidelands during lower tide stages. The rest of the repairs would be within the structure itself and would not involve work in tidal waters.

Lisianski Inlet is designated Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and provides habitat for nearshore EFH species, herring, and migrating adult and juvenile salmon. All five species of Pacific salmon are likely to occupy the project site at various times of the year for feeding and migration. The most significant uses of the project site by EFH species are during the spring herring spawn and juvenile salmonid outmigration. Use of the site as a migration corridor, spawning and rearing area would continue after construction is complete.

Construction-phase impacts of pile installation on EFH could include direct mortality from excavation and fill, a short-term reduction in productivity in the surrounding area caused by turbidity from suspended sediment in the water column, and disturbance or displacement of fishes caused by construction activities. The effect to the environment would be minor. The new

pilings would provide cover and substrate for intertidal organisms after they are installed. No anadromous fish streams, as identified in An Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes, are within the project area.

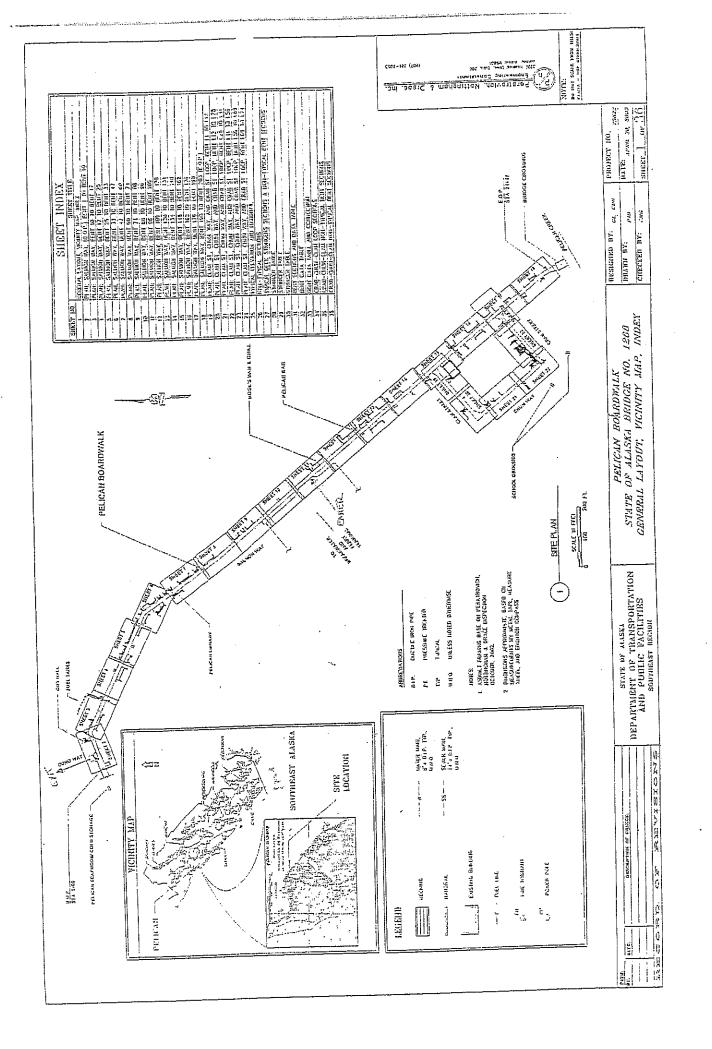
III. Proposed Conservation Measures

The following conservation measures would be included in the project:

- Construction of the pile footings would occur in accordance with timing recommendations
 from NOAA Fisheries to minimize impacts to marine or anadromous fish species. We
 propose that no work be done on piling footings from April 1 to June 15 to protect
 outmigrating salmon smolts and rearing juvenile salmon and reduce the potential impact to
 herring spawning.
- The project contract specifications would include special conditions for implementation and
 maintenance of Best Management Practices (BMPs) during construction to minimize project
 impacts to water quality. This includes development of a Hazardous Materials Control Plan
 by the contractor to prevent spills of hazardous materials (including petroleum products) and
 to detail cleanup methods, materials and equipment on hand during construction.

IV. Agency Determination

Based on the scope and nature of impacts expected from the project and the mitigation measures identified above, DOT&PF on behalf of the FHWA has determined that there would be no substantial adverse individual or cumulative effects to EFH in the project area.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

October 18, 2006

Mark Anderson
Environmental Impact Analyst
State of Alaska
Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities
6860 Glacier Hwy
P.O. Box 112506
Juneau, Alaska 99811-2506

Re:

Pelican Boardwalk Repair EFH

Assessment

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) assessment for the Pelican Boardwalk Repair Project. The project would replace 17 pilings, 17 pairs of cross braces, 14 pile caps and pipe supports, and at least seven sets of stringers. Replacement members would be pressure-treated crossote wood; the replacement pilings will require the construction of concrete footings in intertidal habitat.

The DOT&PF assessment indicates that the project area provides habitat for five species of Pacific salmon. The project area also contains spawning habitat for Pacific herring. DOT&PF has proposed two Conservation Measures to minimize the impact of this project on Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for federally managed species: 1) a no-work window for the construction of piling footings from 1 April to 15 June to protect outmigrating and rearing juvenile salmon and to reduce the potential impact to herring spawning, and 2) implementation and maintenance of Best Management Practices (BMPs) during construction to minimize project impacts to water quality.

NMFS supports the use of no-work timing windows and BMPs to minimize impacts on EFH and water quality during construction. However, NMFS does not concur with DOT&PFs finding that the project will not adversely affect EFH because of the project's proposed in-water use of creosote treated pilings. Creosote contains numerous constituents that are toxic to aquatic organisms including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), phenolic compounds, and nitrogen, sulfer, or oxygenated heterocyclics (Poston, 2001). Leaching of these constituents continues throughout the life of the wood and has been associated with the development of tumors, immune system suppression, decreased fecundity and abnormal embryonic development of fish.



NMFS provides the following EFH conservation recommendations to avoid adverse impacts to EFH:

- 1. Avoid the use of creosote-treated wood where it will come into direct contact with seawater.
- 2. If treated wood must be used, any wood that comes in contact with marine or aquatic environments should be treated with less chronically toxic waterborne preservatives. These include, but are not limited to: Chromated Copper Arsenic (CCA) Type C, Ammoniacal Copper Zinc Arsenate (ACZA), Alkaline Copper Quat (ACQ), Copper Boron Azole (CBA) or Copper Azole (CA). Use wood treated with waterborne preservatives in accordance with BMPs developed by the Western Wood Preservers Institute. Treated wood should be inspected before installation to ensure that no superficial deposits of preservative material remain on the wood.

If you have any questions regarding our comments and Conservation Recommendations for this project, please contact John Hudson (907-586-7639).

Sincerely,

Robert D. Mecum
Acting Administrator, Alaska Region

*Richard Enriquez, USFWS cc:

*Jackie Timothy, ADNR

*Tom Schumacher, ADFG

*Chris Meade, EPA

*e-mail

Reference:

Poston, Ted. 2001. *Treated Wood Issues Associated with Overwater Structures in Marine and Freshwater Environments*. White Paper, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/ahg/overwatr.htm

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

Design and Engineering Services – Southeast Region Preconstruction - Preliminary Design & Environmental FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

6860 GLACIER HIGHWAY P.O. Box 112506 JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-2506 PHONE: (907) 465-4524

TEXT: (907) 465-4647 FAX: (907) 465-3506

November 10, 2006

Re: Pelican Boardwalk Repair EFH Assessment

Project Numbers 69216

Robert D. Mecum Acting Administrator, Alaska Region National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802-1668

Dear Mr. Mecum:

Thank you for your conservation recommendations on the Pelican Boardwalk Repair Project #69216 Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Assessment. We appreciate your support on (1) the nowork window for construction of pile footings from April 1 to June 15 and (2) implementation and maintenance of Best Management Practices during construction. However we disagree with the basis for your objection to the use of creosote pilings for the purpose of this project and your finding that replacement of a few existing creosote pilings would constitute an adverse effect to EFH.

We do not think that there would be a significant lessening of toxicity by using the various Cupric preservatives you mention, since all of these chemicals have been developed to be toxic to marine life. Copper is the treatment most toxic to aquatic organisms (Dickey, 2003). The PAH components in creosote (coal tar) also biodegrade more rapidly than other preservative chemicals. Significant biological effects were confined to a distance of 0.65 meters from the perimeter of the dolphin structure (Brooks, 1999). Since in this case piles would be bolted to a footing and not driven into the substrate, effects are expected to be less than a typical dolphin structure. DOT&PF will use BMPs from the Western Wood Preservers Institute in treatment and replacement of the timbers in the boardwalk structure.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has issued authorization under NWP- 3, Maintenance, for repairs to the Pelican Boardwalk. The City of Pelican and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) have objected to using other types of structures to replace the wood pilings and members because of the historic nature of the Pelican Boardwalk. I have attached a letter from the SHPO stating that the Pelican Boardwalk (SIT-711) is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and should be considered an historic property. SHPO states that, "Provided that the old materials are replaced with in kind materials, we concur that no historic properties would be adversely affected."

As you are aware, DOT&PF has moved away from using treated wood pilings in favor of galvanized steel piles in new construction at our various harbors, seaplane and ferry facilities. However, we maintain that repair of existing historic structures such as the Pelican Boardwalk with like materials does not constitute an adverse effect to EFH species.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 465-4524 or at mark_anderson@dot.state.ak.us.

Sincerely,

Mark Anderson

Environmental Impact Analyst

Mark C. anderson

Enclosure: SHPO concurrence letter

cc: Judith Bittner, DNR SHPO
Carl Schrader, Habitat Biologist, DNR OHMP
Jackie Timothy, Habitat Biologist, DNR OHMP
Tom Schumacher, ADF&G
Glen Justis, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Chris Meade, Region 10 EPA
John Lohrey, Field Operations Engineer, FHWA, Juneau
Jim Evensen, PD&E Group Chief, DOT&PF
Ben White, Environmental Coordinator, DOT&PF

References:

Dickey, P., 2003, Washington Toxics Coalition, *Guidelines for Selecting Wood Preservatives*, San Francisco Department of the Environment, San Francisco, CA

Goyette, D. and Brooks, K.,1999, Sooke Basin Creosote Evaluation Study, Environment Canada, Pacific & Yukon Region, North Vancouver, BC.

STATE UF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

550 W 7th Ave, SUITE 1310 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3565 PHONE: (907) 269-8721 FAX: (907) 269-8908

September 28, 2006

File No.: 3130-1R COE

SUBJECT: Pelican, Lisianski Inlet, Alaska Dept. of Transportation, Boardwalk Rehabilitation (POA-2006-1603-D)

Serena Sweet
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska
Regulatory Branch
P.O. Box 6898
Elmendorf, AK 99506-6898

Dear Ms. Sweet:

We have reviewed the referenced project for conflicts with cultural resources under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This project was received as General Permit Agency Coordination for a Pre-Construction Notification through Nationwide Permit No. 3, Maintenance, referencing a proposal by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to rehabilitate the Pelican Boardwalk. The Pelican Boardwalk (ADOT&PF Bridge No. 1268) was built originally in the late 1930s, was rebuilt in 1951 and reconstructed in 1958. It is listed on the Alaska Heritage Resource Survey as SIT-711. The Pelican Boardwalk has not yet been evaluated for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places and should be considered potentially eligible as a historic property.

The project proposal is to replace 17 piles, 17 pairs of cross braces, 14 pile caps and pile supports, and 7 sets of stringers. The new piles would be placed on concrete footings because pile driving is not possible under the existing boardwalk. Provided that the old materials are replaced with in kind materials, we concur that no historic properties will be adversely affected. We also concur that no historic properties will be adversely affected by placing the new pilings on concrete footings, due to the impossibility of driving piles under the existing boardwalk.

Please contact John Breiby at 269-8717 if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Judith E. Bittner

State Historic Preservation Officer

JEB:jcb

APPENDIX C

U.S. Army Corps Authorization



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, ALASKA P.O. BOX 6898 ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA 99506-0898

Regulatory Branch POA-2006-1603-D

OCT -3 2006

ALASKA DOT & PF SOUTHEAST REGION

OCT 05 2006

Mr. Mark Andersen
Alaska Department of Transportation
and Public Facilities
Post Office Box 112506
Juneau, Alaska 99811-2506

PSELIMINARY DESIGN & ENVIRONMENTAL

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This is in response to your September 11, 2006, request for comments on your proposal to rehabilitate the existing Pelican Boardwalk by replacing 17 piles, 17 pairs of cross braces, 14 pile caps and pipe supports, and 7 sets of stringers. The project site is located within Section 20, T. 45 S., R. 57 E., Copper River Meridian; Latitude 57.958° N., Longitude 136.224° W.; in Pelican, Alaska.

Based upon the information and plans you provided, we hereby verify that the work described above, which would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-3), dated September 11, 2006, is authorized by Nationwide Permit (NWP) No. 3, Maintenance. A copy of NWP No. 3 and its associated Regional and General Conditions has been provided for your convenience. Regional Conditions A-G and K-P apply to your project. You must comply with all terms and conditions associated with NWP No. 3.

Please also find enclosed a copy of the Office of History and Archeology letter, dated September 28, 2006; and an email from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, dated September 25, 2006; regarding the proposal.

Further, please note General Condition 14 requires that you submit a signed certification to us once any work and required mitigation are completed. Enclosure 1 is the form for you to complete and return to us.

This verification is valid until the NWP is modified, reissued, or revoked. All of the existing NWPs are scheduled to be modified, reissued, or revoked prior to March 18, 2007. It is incumbent upon you to remain informed of changes to the NWPs. We will issue a public notice when the NWPs are reissued. Furthermore, if you commence or are under contract to commence this activity before the date that the relevant nationwide permit is modified or revoked, you will have twelve (12) months from the date of the modification or revocation of the NWP to complete the activity under the present terms and conditions of this NWP.

Nothing in this letter excuses you from compliance with other Federal, State, or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

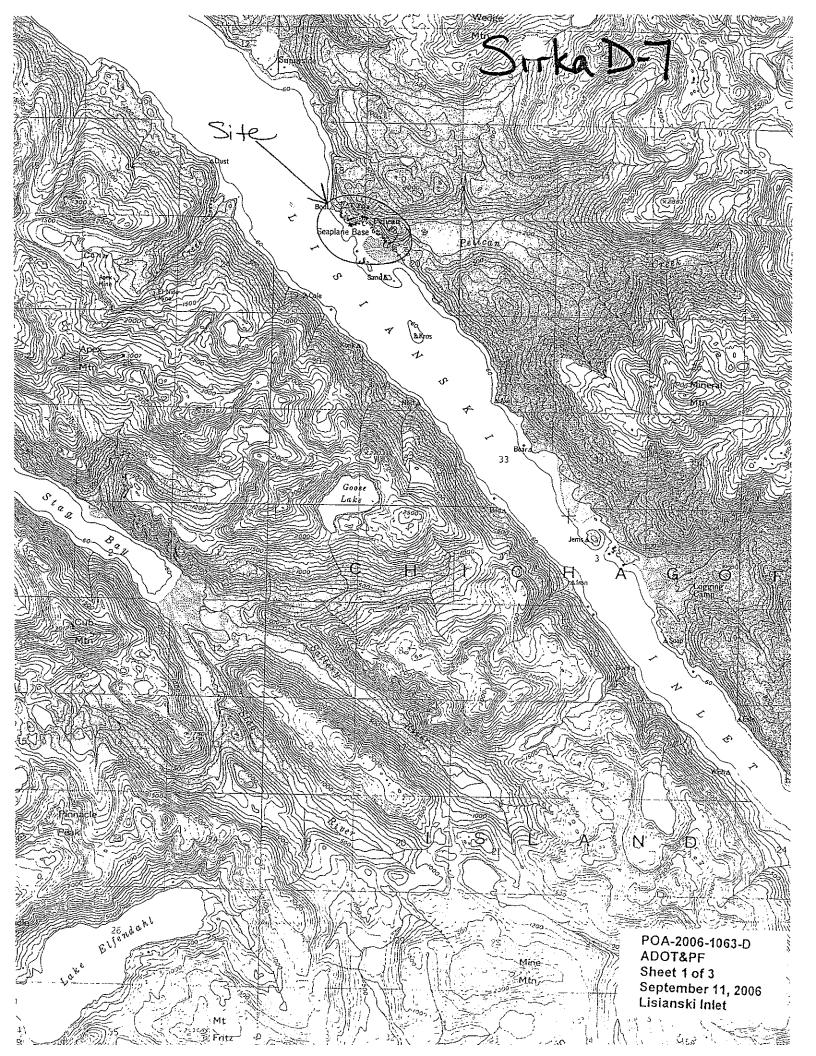
You may contact me at (907) 753-2712, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, by email at serena.e.sweet@poa02.usace.army.mil or by mail at the address above, ATTN: CEPOA-CO-R-E, if you have questions. For additional information about our Regulatory Program, visit our web site at www.poa.usace.army.mil/reg.

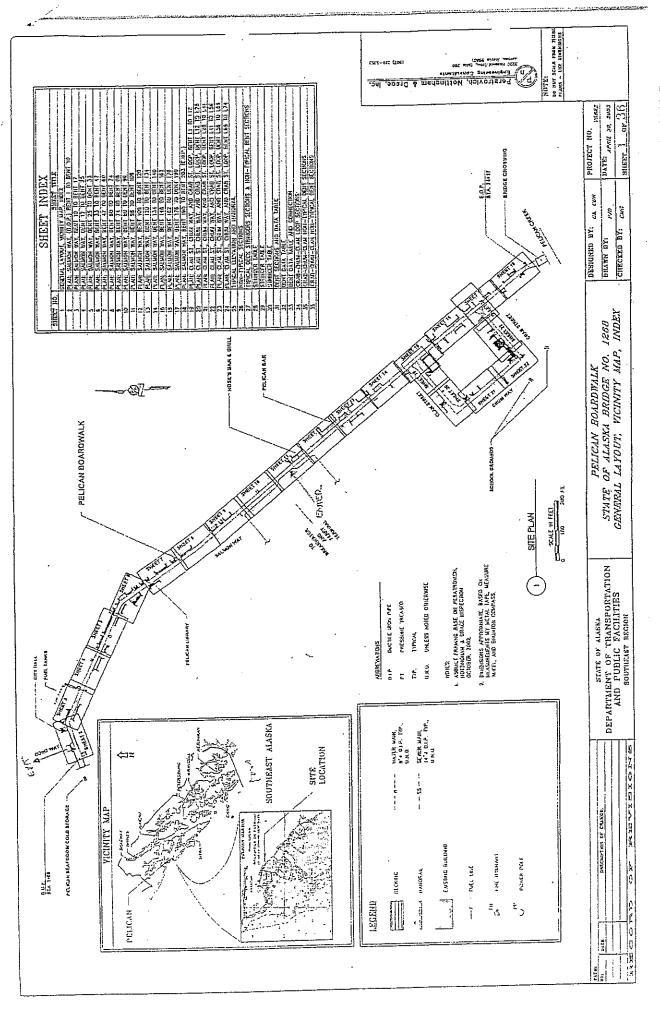
Sincerely,

Serena Sweet

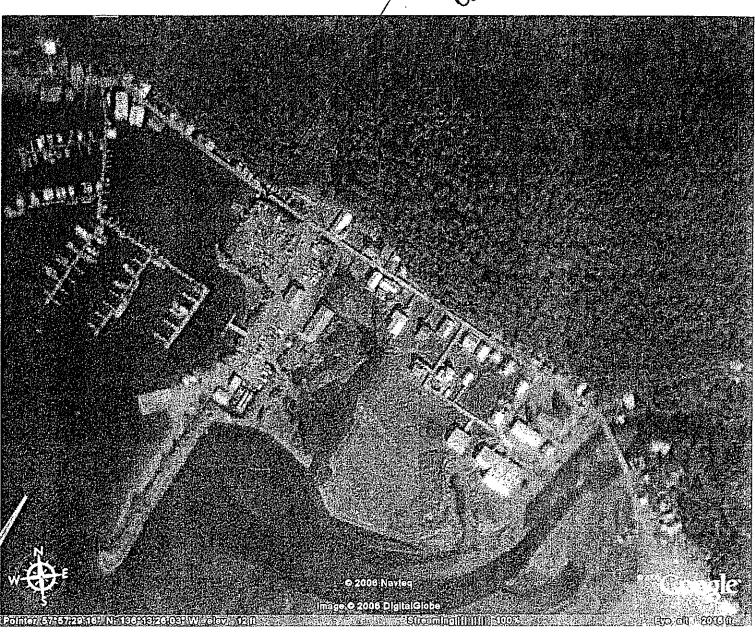
Regulatory Specialist

Enclosures





POA-2006-1063-D ADOT&PF Sheet 2 of 3 September 11, 2006 Lisianski Inlet Pelican walk



POA-2006-1063-D ADOT&PF Sheet 3 of 3 September 11, 2006 Lisianski Inlet

Sweet, Serena E POA

From:

Ashton, William [William_Ashton@dec.state.ak.us]

Sent:

Monday, September 25, 2006 11:40 AM

To:

Sweet, Serena E POA

Subject: PCN for POA-2006-1603-D Lisianski Inlet ADOT&PF

Hi,

DEC has no water quality concerns for this project, provided they follow NWP 3, specifically Regional Condition B.

William Ashton Stormwater and Wetlands Nonpoint Source Program Division of Water Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation 555 Cordova St. Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-269-7564 Fax: 907-334-2415

NATIONWIDE PERMIT NUMBER 3

Department of the Army Nationwide Permit (NWP) number 3 was issued pursuant to the January 15, 2002, Federal Register: Issuance of Nationwide Permits; Notice (67 FR 2020-2095) and the February 13, 2002, Federal Register: Issuance of Nationwide Permits; Notice; Correction (67 FR 6692-2295), which authorizes:

3. Maintenance. Activities related to:

(i) The repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of any previously authorized, currently serviceable, structure, or fill, or of any currently serviceable structure or fill authorized by 33 CFR 330.3, provided that the structure or fill is not to be put to uses differing from those uses specified or contemplated for it in the original permit or the most recently authorized modification. Minor deviations in the structure's configuration or filled area including those due to changes in materials, construction techniques, or current construction codes or safety standards which are necessary to make repair, rehabilitation, or replacement are permitted, provided the adverse environmental effects resulting from such repair, rehabilitation, or replacement are minimal. Currently serviceable means useable as is or with some maintenance, but not so degraded as to essentially require reconstruction. This NWP authorizes the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of those structures or fills destroyed or damaged by storms, floods, fire, or other discrete events, provided the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement is commenced, or is under contract to commence, within two years of the date of their destruction or damage. In cases of catastrophic events, such as hurricanes or tornadoes, this two-year limit may be waived by the District Engineer, provided the permittee can demonstrate funding, contract, or other similar delays. (ii) Discharges of dredged or fill material, including excavation, into all waters of the U.S. to remove accumulated sediments and debris in the vicinity of, and within, existing structures (e.g., bridges, culverted road crossings, water intake structures, etc.) and the placement of new or additional riprap to protect the structure, provided the permittee notifies the District Engineer in accordance with General Condition 13. The removal of sediment is limited to the minimum necessary to restore the waterway in the immediate vicinity of the structure to the approximate dimensions that existed when the structure was built, but cannot extend further than 200 feet in any direction from the structure. The placement of riprap must be the minimum necessary to protect the structure or to ensure the safety of the structure. All excavated materials must be deposited and retained in an upland area unless otherwise specifically approved by the District Engineer under separate authorization. Any bank stabilization measures not directly associated with the structure will require a separate authorization from the District Engineer. (iii) Discharges of dredged or fill material, including excavation, into all waters of the U.S. for activities associated with the restoration of upland areas damaged by a storm, flood, or other discrete event, including the construction, placement, or installation of upland protection structures and minor dredging to remove obstructions in a water of the U.S. (Uplands lost as a result of a storm, flood, or other discrete event can be replaced without a Section 404 permit provided the uplands are restored to their original pre-event location. This NWP is for the activities in waters of the U.S. associated with the replacement of the uplands.) The permittee must notify the District Engineer, in accordance with General Condition 13, within 12 months of the date of the damage and the work must commence, or be under contract to commence, within two years of the date of the damage. The permittee should provide evidence, such as a recent topographic survey or photographs, to justify the extent of the proposed restoration. The restoration of the damaged areas cannot exceed the contours, or ordinary high water mark, that existed before the damage. The District Engineer retains the right to determine the extent of the pre-existing conditions and the extent of any restoration work authorized by this permit. Minor dredging to remove obstructions from the adjacent waterbody is limited to 50 cubic yards below the plane of the ordinary high water mark, and is limited to the amount necessary to restore the pre-existing bottom contours of the waterbody. The dredging may not be done primarily to obtain fill for any restoration activities. The discharge of dredged or fill material and all related work needed to restore the upland must be part of a single and complete project. This permit cannot be used in conjunction with NWP 18 or NWP 19 to restore damaged upland areas. This permit cannot be used to reclaim historic lands lost, over an extended period, to normal erosion processes.

This permit does not authorize maintenance dredging for the primary purpose of navigation and beach restoration. This permit does not authorize new stream channelization or stream relocation projects. Any work authorized by this permit must not cause more than minimal degradation of water quality, more than

upon completion of boring unless the applicant can successfully demonstrate that more damage to wetlands would occur from removal.

- b. vaults, 5' x 5' or less, for residential subdivisions at no less than 150-foot intervals.
- 2. Trenching using no imported fill within 25 feet of the outer edge of the constructed road prism and more than 100 feet from anadromous fish streams (measured from Ordinary High Water), with trenches no more than 2 feet wide and 5 feet deep, using a bucket no more than 2 feet wide. Under non-frozen conditions fabric shall be used beneath all sidecast materials to minimize disturbance of vegetation adjacent to trenches.
 - a. Vaults for electrical utilities of no more than 8' x 8' x 3' with up to 20 cubic yards of clean fill for bedding at 200-foot or greater intervals or larger vaults of no more than 11' x 9' x 9' at 1,200-foot or greater intervals with no bedding.
 - b. Vaults, 5' x 5' or less, for residential subdivisions at no less than 150-foot intervals.
- 3. <u>Electrical or telephone poles</u> with no more than 3 cubic yards of clean fill per hole as backfill within 25 feet of the outer edge of the constructed road prism and more than 100 feet from anadromous fish streams (measured from Ordinary High Water).
- B. Activities, which require a PCN (where <u>all</u> reviewing Federal and State agencies <u>must concur</u>, as described in the first note, or the project will be handled with an individual permit). The PCN will focus on a review of the alignment and placement of stockpiles and vaults for boring and directional drilling and trenches less than five feet in depth and will consider all project details for trenches deeper than 5 feet.
 - 1. <u>Directional boring</u> extending beyond 25 feet from the outer edge of the constructed road prism or extending to within 100 feet (measured from Ordinary High Water) of anadromous fish streams with vaults/junction boxes or pads as described above (A1a and A1b).
 - 2. Horizontal directional drilling method of pipe. The pilot, entrance, and exit holes must be the minimum necessary, and where a stream crossing is involved, must be set back from the stream bank by at least 100 feet. Excavated materials and drilling muds must be stockpiled on non-wetland, where available. Under non-frozen conditions, fabric must be placed beneath all materials stockpiled in wetlands. Information submitted for the PCN shall include a description of the access route, as well as extent of disturbance and stockpiling around the entrance and exit holes.
 - 3. <u>Trenching between 5 and 10 feet deep</u> using no imported fill with vaults or pads, as described above (A2).
 - 4. <u>Trenching less than 5 feet deep</u> and 2 feet wide with vaults or pads, as described above (A2), but <u>beyond</u> 25 feet of the outer edge of the constructed road prism or <u>within</u> 100 feet of anadromous fish streams (measured from Ordinary High Water).

FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE:

Upon completion of a project, stockpiled native materials must be replaced so as to achieve the original surface condition within a year of disturbance; except for material placed as minor trench over-fill or surcharge necessary to offset subsidence or compaction, all excess native materials and all non-native materials must be removed to a nonwetland location. If, after a year, the access route and work sites still appear to be more than minimally disturbed, then restoration to original contour and revegetation of these sites must be done after consultation with the Alaska District about species and planting methods. Note that this requirement applies even when there is no PCN.

Imported material may never be used for trenches for the above exceptions, only for vaults and pads specified above. For work occurring when the ground is thawed, equipment must either have a ground bearing weight of 5 pounds per square inch or less or must work off of mats or foundation pads to reduce the impacts of access to the work site.

For work occurring when the ground is frozen, there must be 18 inches of frost in the ground and a minimum of 6 inches of compacted snow cover, or 12 inches of frost in the ground and 12 inches of compacted snow cover, standard equipment may be used; however, mats or foundation pads must be readily available in the event that the driving surface fails.

- -Operating equipment in bog or emergent wetlands on frozen ground to minimize destruction of the natural vegetative mat.
- -Using crane matting or suitable geotextile material to protect vegetation from damage by heavy equipment.

Revegetation techniques may vary with site conditions and include, but are not limited to the following: -Seeding, planting, replacement of reserved ground cover, and/or fertilizing of re-contoured ground to promote re-establishment of natural plant communities. Species to be used for seeding and planting should follow this order of preference: 1) species native to the site; 2) species native to the area; 3) species native to the state; and, 4) non-native species. Note: If native species are not available, only non-native species, which are known to not reproduce in the general project area, may be used for revegetation. The following species are known to be highly invasive and may not be used under any circumstances for revegetation under these NWPs: Alopecurus arundinacea (meadow foxtail), A. pratensis (creeping foxtail), Lythrum salicaria (purple loosestrife), Melilotus alba (white sweet clover), M. officinalis (vellow sweet clover), Phalaris arundinacea (reed canary grass), Phleum pratense (timothy), and Polygonum cuspidatum (known by the common names: Japanese knotweed, crimson beauty, Mexican bamboo, and Japanese fleece flower) Lysimachia terristris (swamp loosestrife/yellow loosestrife) Phragmites australis (common reed). -In peat wetlands, systematically removing the natural vegetative mat (with root masses intact) prior to construction, storing it in a manner to retain viability (usually frozen or hydrated), then replacing it after re-contouring the ground following construction, with final contours within one foot of adjacent undisturbed soil surfaces after one growing season and one freeze/thaw cycle. For minor utility projects where no imported bedding or backfill material is used (e.g., "plowed in" cables or small utility lines installed with ditch-witches), simple restoration to pre-work contours and appropriate revegetation (see above) shall suffice.

Restoration and revegetation of streambank and shoreline habitat should utilize the most up-to-date bioengineering techniques and use of biodegradable materials when feasible and practicable (i.e., Streambank Revegetation and Protection: A Guide for Alaska (Muhlberg and Moore 1998)). Techniques may include, but are not limited to, brush layering, brush mattressing, live siltation, and use of jute matting and coir logs to stabilize soil and re-establish native vegetation.

This Regional Condition applies to NWPs 3, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 23, 27, 33, 35, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44. The referenced plan needs to be submitted to the Corps of Engineers only for those NWPs requiring a PCN (i.e., NWPs 6, 7, 17, 19, 23, 27, 33, 35, and 44 for all activities, and NWPs 3, 5, 12, 13, 14, 18, 39, 40, 41, 42, and 43 for those projects which exceed the thresholds or are of the type specified in the NWP language). For NWP 13, a PCN and plan are required for all projects (independent of thresholds) located in anadromous and resident fish streams.

REGIONAL CONDITION F

For those projects, which require a vegetated buffer for maintenance of water quality (pursuant to NWP General Conditions 9 and 19), the minimum width for buffers from fish-bearing waters shall be 100 feet, as measured from the ordinary high water mark of the water body. Fish-bearing waters include habitat for both anadromous and resident fish, and shall be identified by reference to the latest or the most recent Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes, or other documentation provided to the Alaska District during the PCN.

This Regional Condition applies to NWPs 3, 7, 12, 14, 27, 29, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44. Note: For projects under NWPs 7, 12, and 14 this does not prohibit perpendicular crossings.

REGIONAL CONDITION G

Activities that include the construction and maintenance of intake structures must include adequate fish screening devices to prevent the entrainment or capture of fish.

be made to the bank or fee-in-lieu program before commencing construction of the permitted activity, if practicable. (Fee amount will be determined at time of payment).

This Regional Condition applies to all NWPs.

REGIONAL CONDITION P

Maintenance activities in any fish-bearing waters (as described in Regional Conditions F and M) must be designed and implemented in a manner that will, at a minimum, maintain fish habitat to the maximum extent practicable. The following activities are not authorized by NWP 3 in Alaska, unless the applicant presents proof of application for a Fish Habitat permit to the Corps with their application packet: obstruction removal, removal of stream bed material, placement of riprap, gabion baskets, and/or discharges associated with the repair of upland areas damaged by discrete events, when the discharges will result in unstable stream habitats and erosion elsewhere along the river.

This Regional Condition applies to NWP 3.

- 10. Coastal Zone Management. In certain states, an individual state coastal zone management consistency concurrence must be obtained or waived (see 33 CFR 330.4(d)).
- 11. Endangered Species. (a) No activity is authorized under any NWP which is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), or which will destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species. Non-federal permittees shall notify the District Engineer if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, or is located in the designated critical habitat and shall not begin work on the activity until notified by the District Engineer that the requirements of the ESA have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized. For activities that may affect Federally-listed endangered or threatened species or designated critical habitat, the notification must include the name(s) of the endangered or threatened species that may be affected by the proposed work. As a result of formal or informal consultation with the USFWS or NMFS the District Engineer may add species-specific regional endangered species conditions to the NWPs.
- (b) Authorization of an activity by a NWP does not authorize the "take" of a threatened or endangered species as defined under the ESA. In the absence of separate authorization (e.g., an ESA Section 10 Permit, a Biological Opinion with "incidental take" provisions, etc.) from the USFWS or the NMFS, both lethal and non-lethal "takes" of protected species are in violation of the ESA. Information on the location of threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the USFWS and NMFS or their World Wide Web pages at http://www.fws.gov/r9endspp/endspp.html and http://www.nfms.noaa.gov1protresloverviewles.html respectively.
- 12. Historic Properties. No activity which may affect historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places is authorized, until the District Engineer has complied with the provisions of 33 CFR Part 325, Appendix C. The prospective permittee must notify the District Engineer if the authorized activity may affect any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible, or which the prospective permittee has reason to believe may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and shall not begin the activity until notified by the District Engineer that the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized. Information on the location and existence of historic resources can be obtained from the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Register of Historic Places (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)). For activities that may affect historic properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places, the notification must state which historic property may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property.
- **13. Notification**. This general condition requires the applicant to provide notification (except for NWPs # 1, 2, 4, 8-11, 15, 16, 20, 22, 24, 25, 28, 30, and 34) to the District Engineer, including project-specific information, before Department of the Army authorization can be granted. The District Engineer reviews that information and solicits input from federal, state, and local resource agencies before making a permit decision. Once authorization has been granted, there are no further requirements of this general condition; therefore, the text of this condition has been removed. A copy of the full text will be provided upon request (visit our web site at: www.poa.usace.army.mil/reg).
- **14. Compliance Certification**. Every permittee who has received NWP verification from the Corps will submit a signed certification regarding the completed work and any required mitigation. The certification will be forwarded by the Corps with the authorization letter and will include: (a) A statement that the authorized work was done in accordance with the Corps authorization, including any general or specific conditions; (b) A statement that any required mitigation was completed in accordance with the permit conditions; and, (c) The signature of the permittee certifying the completion of the work and mitigation.

best for the aquatic environment on a watershed basis. In cases where vegetated buffers are determined to be the most appropriate form of compensatory mitigation, the District Engineer may waive or reduce the requirement to provide wetland compensatory mitigation for wetland impacts.

- (g) Compensatory mitigation proposals submitted with the "notification" may be either conceptual or detailed. If conceptual plans are approved under the verification, then the Corps will condition the verification to require detailed plans be submitted and approved by the Corps prior to construction of the authorized activity in waters of the U.S.
- (h) Permittees may propose the use of mitigation banks, in-lieu fee arrangements, or separate activity-specific compensatory mitigation. In all cases that require compensatory mitigation, the mitigation provisions will specify the party responsible for accomplishing and/or complying with the mitigation plan.
- **20. Spawning Areas**. Activities, including structures and work in navigable waters of the U.S. or discharges of dredged or fill material, in spawning areas during spawning seasons must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. Activities that result in the physical destruction (e.g., excavate, fill, or smother downstream by substantial turbidity) of an important spawning area are not authorized.
- 21. Management of Water Flows. To the maximum extent practicable, the activity must be designed to maintain preconstruction downstream flow conditions (e.g., location, capacity, and flow rates). Furthermore, the activity must not permanently restrict or impede the passage of normal or expected high flows (unless the primary purpose of the fill is to impound waters) and the structure or discharge of dredged or fill material must withstand expected high flows. The activity must, to the maximum extent practicable, provide for retaining excess flows from the site, provide for maintaining surface flow rates from the site similar to preconstruction conditions, and provide for not increasing water flows from the project site, relocating water, or redirecting water flow beyond preconstruction conditions. Stream channelizing will be reduced to the minimal amount necessary, and the activity must, to the maximum extent practicable, reduce adverse effects such as flooding or erosion downstream and upstream of the project site, unless the activity is part of a larger system designed to manage water flows. In most cases, it will not be a requirement to conduct detailed studies and monitoring of water flow.

This condition is only applicable to projects that have the potential to affect waterflows. While appropriate measures must be taken, it is not necessary to conduct detailed studies to identify such measures or require monitoring to ensure their effectiveness. Normally, the Corps will defer to state and local authorities regarding management of water flow.

- **22.** Adverse Effects From Impoundments. If the activity creates an impoundment of water, adverse effects to the aquatic system due to the acceleration of the passage of water, and/or the restricting its flow shall be minimized to the maximum extent practicable. This includes structures and work in navigable waters of the U.S., or discharges of dredged or fill material.
- **23. Waterfowl Breeding Areas**. Activities, including structures and work in navigable waters of the U.S. or discharges of dredged or fill material, into breeding areas for migratory waterfowl must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable.
- **24.** Removal of Temporary Fills. Any temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to their preexisting elevation.
- 25. Designated Critical Resource Waters. Critical resource waters include, NOAA-designated marine sanctuaries, National Estuarine Research Reserves, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, critical habitat for Federally listed threatened and endangered species, coral reefs, state natural heritage sites, and outstanding national resource waters or other waters officially designated by a state as having particular environmental or ecological significance and identified by the District Engineer after notice and opportunity for public comment. The District Engineer may also designate additional critical resource waters after notice and opportunity for comment.
- (a) Except as noted below, discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. are not authorized by NWPs 7, 12, 14, 16, 17, 21, 29, 31, 35, 39, 40, 42, 43, and 44 for any activity within, or

ADVISORY INFORMATION FOR ALL NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITIES

A Department of Fish and Game Permit is required for:

- Work in designated anadromous fish streams or other fish-bearing waters.
- Placement of cross-channel structures, drainage structures, or diversions in streams that contain either anadromous or resident fish.
- ❖ Work in legislatively designated state game refuges, sanctuaries, or critical habitat areas.

A Department of Natural Resources Permit is required for:

Any activity that is located on state land, state tide or submerged land, or shoreland.

A Kenai Peninsula Borough Permit is required for:

Projects occurring within the 50-foot Habitat Protection Area established by Kenai Peninsula Borough Code, Section 21.18.040. No building, construction, filling, excavation, major clearing of vegetation, commercial recreation uses, or activity which results in significant erosion or damage to riparian habitat, or results or increases ground or water pollution can be conducted except when specifically allowed under KPB 21.18.070. Information and permit applications are available from the Kenai River Center at (907) 260-4882.

Department of Environmental Conservation Advisory:

All activities authorized by NWPs must meet the Alaska Water Quality Standards (18 AAC 70). These standards establish strict limits on the amount of sediment and turbidity that may be introduced into fresh and marine waters, including wetlands. In concert with NWP General Condition #3, which requires appropriate soil erosion and sedimentation controls to be used and maintained in effective operating condition during construction, and requires all exposed soil and other fills to be permanently stabilized at the earliest practicable date, the policy of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is as follows:

Silt and sediment from excavation and fill activities may not enter wetlands or waterbodies outside the project footprint. Where practicable, fill material must be free from fine material that is subject to erosion and suspension. Site preparation, excavation, fill placement, and construction activities must be conducted to prevent, minimize, and contain the erosion and suspension of fine material that could be carried off-site by surface runoff. If suspended material is evident in standing or flowing water outside the project footprint, appropriate control and containment measures must be applied. These measures may include slope stabilization, revegetation, filter fabric fences, straw bales, other effective filters or barriers, fiber matting, settling ponds, drainage control, trenches and water bars, waterproof covers over material piles and exposed soils, avoiding work during heavy precipitation, and other appropriate measures. Disturbed ground and exposed soil not covered with fill, structures, or appurtenances must be stabilized and revegetated in an appropriate and timely manner to minimize erosion and sedimentation, so that a durable vegetative cover is established and maintained.

Matanuska-Susitna Coastal District Advisory:

Within the 75-foot shoreline setback, all areas not occupied by allowed development must minimize disturbance of natural vegetation.

Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) Advisory:

Many areas of the state are covered by FEMA-approved floodplain regulations, local land-use plans and regulations, and other ordinances and regulations related to development. These restrictions must be adhered to in the development of a residence on a fill permitted by a NWP.

Enclosure 1



US Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District

Permit Number: POA-2006-1603-D

Name of Permittee: Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

OCT - 3 2006

Date of Issuance:

Upon completion of the activity authorized by this permit and any mitigation required by the permit, sign this certification and return it to Ms. Serena Sweet at the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District Regulatory Branch Post Office Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-0898

Please note that your permitted activity is subject to a compliance inspection by an U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representative. If you fail to comply with this permit you are subject to permit suspension, modification, or revocation.

I hereby certify that the work authorized by the above-referenced permit has been completed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the said permit, and required mitigation was completed in accordance with the permit conditions.

Signature	of	Permittee	Date



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, ALASKA P.O. BOX 6898 ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA 99506-0898

GENERAL PERMIT AGENCY COORDINATION

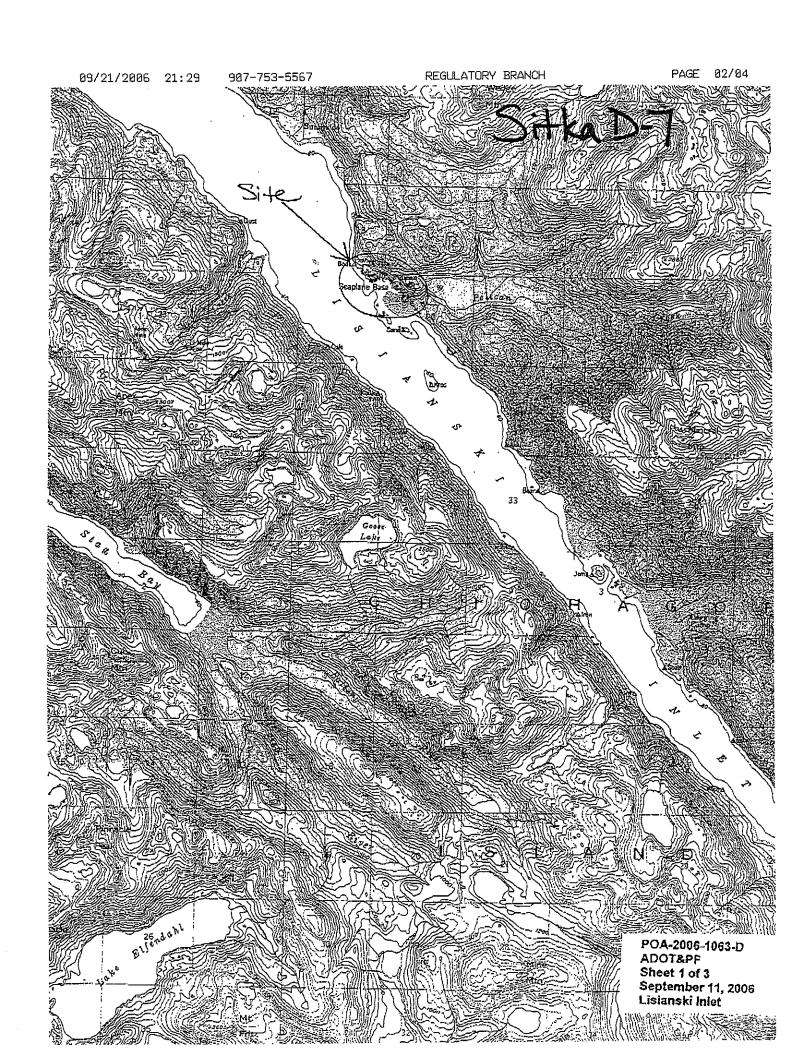
IN RESPONSE TO OUR RECEIPT OF THE ENCLOSED PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION FOR THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT. IF ADDITIONAL TIME IS NEEDED TO PROVIDE SUBSTANTIVE, SITE-SPECIFIC COMMENTS, CONTACT US AND WE WILL WAIT AN ADDITIONAL 15 CALENDAR DAYS BEFORE MAKING A PERMIT DECISION. FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE GENERAL PERMIT CAN BE FOUND AT OUR WEB SITE: http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/reg.

WE ARE REQUESTING THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE TO REVIEW AND COMMENT CONCERNING ANY LIKELY AFFECT TO ANY THREATENED OR ENDANGERED SPECIES OR THEIR CRITICAL HABITAT.

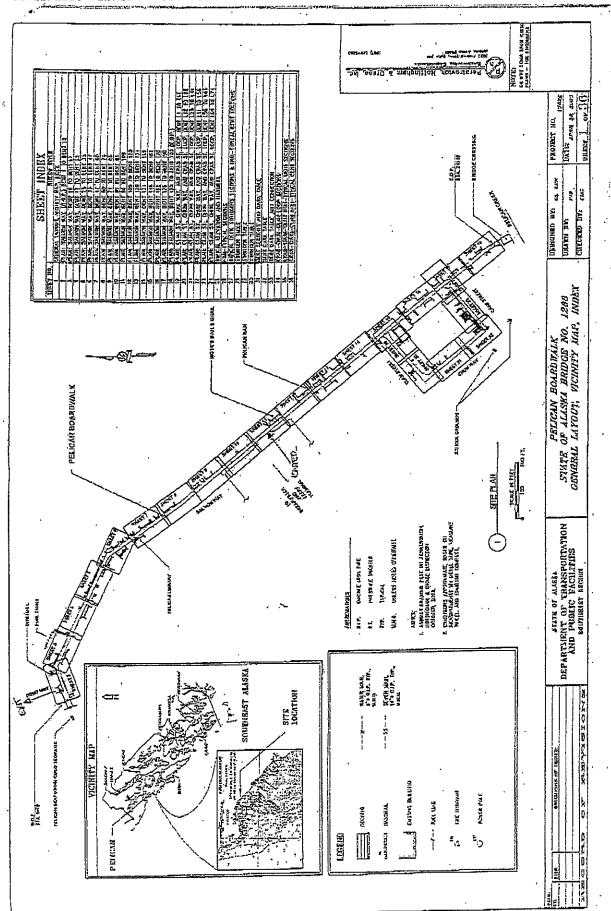
COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL MAY BE MAILED TO U.S. ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS, ATTN: CO-R-E, P.O. BOX 6898, ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA 99506-0898, OR EMAILED TO SERENALE.SWEET@POA02.USACE.ARMY.MIL.

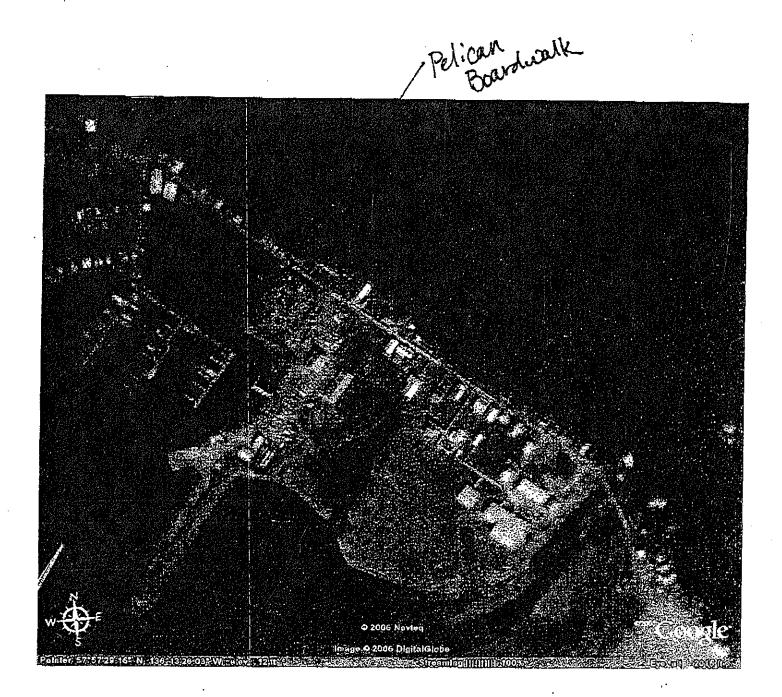
- CORPS OF ENGINEERS IDENTIFICATION: POA-2006-1603-D, Lisianski Inlet, Alaska Department of Transportation
- GENERAL PERMIT: Nationwide Permit (NWP) No. 3, Maintenance
- COMMENT PERIOD CLOSING DATE: October 2, 2006
- <u>PROJECT LOCATION</u>: The proposed project is located within Section 20, T. 45 S., R. 57 E., Copper River Meridian; Latitude 57.958° N., Longitude 136.224° W.; in Pelican, Alaska.
- PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Rehabilitate the existing Pelican Boardwalk by replacing 17 piles, 17 pairs of cross braces, 14 pile caps and pipe supports, and 7 sets of stringers. The new piles would be placed on concrete footings because pile driving is not possible under the existing boardwalk.
- ENCLOSURES: Sheets 1-3, dated September 11, 2006

DISTRIBUTION LIST: FAX #465-5274 ADEC Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation × FAX #586-2954 ADNR-DMLW Div. of Mining, Land, and Water X Craig: FAX #826-2562 Petersburg: FAX #772-9336 ADNR-OHMP Office of Habitat Management & Permitting X ☑ Juneau: FAX #465-4272 FAX #465-3075 ADNR—OPMP AK Coastal Management Program ADNR-SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer FAX #269-8908 \boxtimes FAX #586-7015 EPA Environmental Protection Agency \boxtimes FAX #271-2851 FAA Federal Aviation Admin (NWP 7 only) FAX #247-8439 Ketchikan Coastal District (Ketchikan Gateway Borough) FAX #586-7358 \boxtimes NMFS National Marina Fisheries Service FAX #586-7154 USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service FAX #465-3506 Applicant: Mark Anderson, ADOT&PF



POA-2006-1063-D ADOT&PF Sheet 2 of 3 September 11, 2006 Listanski Inlet





POA-2006-1063-D ADOT&PF Sheet 3 of 3 September 11, 2006 Lisianski Inlet

APPENDIX D

Agency Correspondence

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

Design and Engineering Services – Southeast Region Preconstruction - Preliminary Design & Environmental FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

6860 GLACIER HIGHWAY P.O. BOX 112506 JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-2506

PHONE: (907) 465-4524 TEXT: (907) 465-4647 FAX: (907) 465-3506

September 11, 2006

Re: Pelican Boardwalk Repairs, Project 69216

Subject: Scoping Letter - Request for Comments

Bill Hanson Field Supervisor USF&WS 3000 Vintage Blvd., Suite 201 Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Mr. Hanson:

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) requests public and agency comments on a project to make repairs to the boardwalk in Pelican, Alaska (Vicinity map & general layout enclosed). DOT&PF will use Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funding passed through the Denali Commission for this project and will prepare an environmental document. Your comments will assist us with the environmental document.

Need for Improvements

The purpose of this project is to replace failing members of the extensive boardwalk in Pelican as recommended by the Inspection and Condition Assessment prepared for DOT&PF by Peratrovich, Nottingham and Drage, Inc. Portions of the Pelican Boardwalk are over 50 years old. The boardwalk is in fair to poor condition and improvements are needed to ensure the safety of the traveling public in the future. The members to be replaced are damaged or have succumbed to dry rot.

Proposed Improvements

The project would replace 17 pilings, 17 pairs of cross braces, 14 pile caps and pipe supports and at least 7 sets of stringers. All of these members are pressure creosote treated wood and would be replaced in-kind with pressure treated creosote wood. The pilings would require a concrete footing, since pile driving would not be feasible under the existing boardwalk.

Project Impacts

Lisianski Inlet is designated Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and provides habitat for nearshore EFH species, herring, and migrating adult and juvenile salmon. As this project may adversely affect EFH, an EFH assessment is being prepared for National Marine Fisheries Service review and conservation recommendations.

Placing footings for 17 pilings would impact about 180 square feet of tidal Waters of the U.S. The footings would be excavated by hand or with a small backhoe to a two foot depth and a standard square concrete footing poured with a galvanized bolted pile fitting. Excavated material would be mounded back around the pile base over the concrete footing. All excavation and fill work would be done on dewatered tidelands during lower tide stages. The rest of the repairs would be within the structure itself and would not require excavation or fill in tidal waters. The boardwalk structure is in Waters of the U.S.; in-kind repairs would qualify for Nationwide Permit #3. Portions of the boardwalk trestle are fifty years old, so we will consider it for historic significance.

No anadromous fish streams, as identified in An Atlas to the Catalog of Water Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes, would be affected by the proposed project. However, Pelican Creek, an anadromous fish stream with a small chum salmon hatchery, is located at the south end of the boardwalk.

Impact Mitigation

Proposed project mitigation includes working during timing windows recommended by resource agencies and using Best Management Practices for construction. Existing creosote treated members to be replaced would become property of the contractor and removed for proper disposal.

Request for Comments

We request your comments on the proposed improvements, particularly concerning resources under your jurisdiction. To comply with certain interagency agreements, we also request the views of applicable agencies on potential effects to bald eagles and Threatened and Endangered Species. In accordance with the Millennium Agreement between the State of Alaska and Native tribes, we request the views of tribes and the public on the project's potential effects on cultural and historic properties. DOT&PF must also determine the extent to which this project would affect coastal zone resources. If you have any information that would assist us in making these determinations, please provide it. Your comments will be included in the project environmental document. We would appreciate your response by October 13, 2006.

Thank you for your consideration of this request for comments. If you have any questions, please call me at 465-4524 or e-mail at mark anderson@dot.state.ak.us.

Sincerely,

Mark C. Inderson

Mark Anderson Environmental Impact Analyst

Enclosures:

Vicinity map & general layout

Distribution list:

Ed Collazzi, Land and Water Manager, DNR
Joe Donohue, Project Review Coordinator, DNR, Office of Project Management & Permitting
Bill Hanson, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Glen Justis, East Section Chief, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Anchorage
Jon Kurland, Chief, Habitat Conservation Division, NOAA Fisheries
Mel Langdon, Environmental Specialist, ADEC, Anchorage
Chris Meade, Environmental Specialist, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Juneau
The Honorable Patricia Phillips, Mayor, City of Pelican
Ed Thomas, President, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes of Alaska
Jackie Timothy, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, OHMP, Juneau

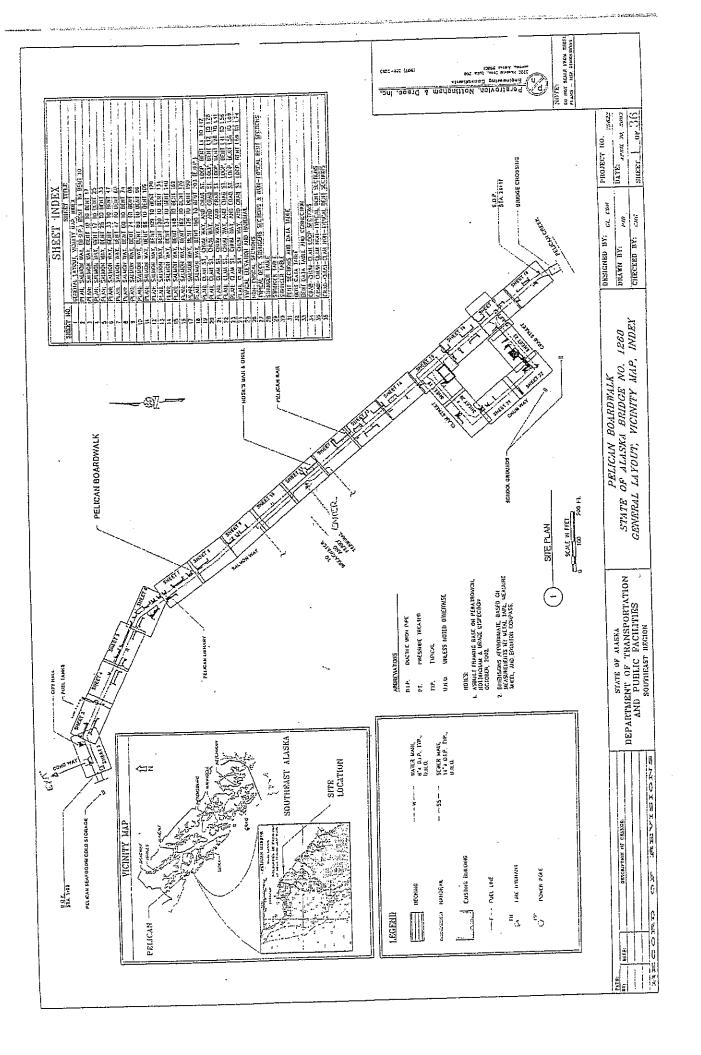
Cc:

Jim Evensen, PD&E Group Chief, DOT&PF Southeast Region
John Lohrey, Field Operations Engineer, FHWA, Juneau
Van Sundberg, Environmental Coordinator, DOT&PF Southeast Region

ALASKA DOT & PF SOUTHEAST REGION

SEP 14 2006

PRELIMINARY DESIGN & ENVIRONMENTAL



FAX: 735-2258

ALASKA DOT & PE SOUTHEAST REGION

ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION

October 2, 2006

PELICAN, ALASKA 99832

Mark Anderson Environmental Impact Analyst State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities 6860 Glacier Highway P.O. Box 112506 Juneau, Alaska 99811-2506

Re: Scoping Letter - Request for Comments

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Thank you for your scoping letter – request for comments dated September 11, 2006.

Project Impacts:

The third paragraph, last sentence states, "However, Pelican Creek, an anadromous fish stream with a small chum salmon hatchery, is located at the south end of the boardwalk."

The Pelican Creek is an anadromous fish stream; however, there is not a small chum salmon hatchery. There are pink salmon and chum salmon that naturally return and spawn in this stream every year.

The City concurs with other details described in the Scoping Letter - Request for Comments, Pelican Boardwalk Repairs, Project 69216. The City of Pelican has requested funds for Pelican Boardwalk improvements. The proposed improvements will address only the areas of greatest need for improvement. There will be minimal project impact to Essential Fish Habitat, excavation and fill work will occur at low tide with little or no effect on natural resources, wildlife and marine life. This project will follow Best Management Practices as recommended by resource agencies.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Patricia Phillips

Mayor

Mark C Anderson

From: Carl Schrader [carl_schrader@dnr.state.ak.us]

Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2006 10:11 AM

To: Mark Anderson

Subject: Pelican Boardwalk

Mark,

I read your response to NMFS regarding use of creosote-treated pilings. I'd like to discuss this with you.

You point out that substituting copper treatment for creosote is merely replacing one poison with another, and make a case for using creosote instead of following NMFS recommendation for copper treatment. You reference Washington Toxics Coalition guidelines (Dickie, 2003); and a study by Goyette and Brooks 1999. Could you get me copies of those references to review?

I'd also like you to clarify how placing the pilings on a footing as opposed to driving them into the substrate would make a difference in terms of leaching into the marine environment.

I appreciate your bringing this out for discussion. It's obvious that toxicity can be minimized by replacing creosote-treated materials with steel. However, I'd like to get a better comparison of the other treatments in situations where wood is the only practical alternative. Give me a call when you get a chance.

Carl Schrader Alaska Department of Natural Resources Office of Habitat Management & Permitting (OHMP) 400 Willoughby Ave., 4th Floor P.O. Box 111050 Juneau, AK 99811-1050

(907) 465-4287; FAX 465-4759



MEMORANDUM

STATE OF ALASKA

Department of Natural Resources Office of Habitat Management and Permitting

то: Mark Anderson

Project Environmental Impact Analyst

Alaska Department of Transportation

THRU: Jackie Timothy

FROM: Carl Schrader (

Habitat Biologist

DATE: October 3, 2006

FILE NO: Project #69216

SUBJECT: Pelican Boardwalk Repairs

TELEPHONE NO: (907) 465-4287

I reviewed your scoping document for the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' (ADOT&PF) Pelican Boardwalk repairs. ADOT&PF proposes the repair because improvements are needed to ensure the safety of the traveling public.

ADOT&PF will replace 17 pilings and cross braces, 14 pile caps and pipe supports, and a minimum of seven sets of stringers. The wooden members of the structure will be pressure-treated creosote and the pilings will sit on concrete footings. Footings will be excavated and poured during low tide and excavated material backfilled over the footings.

Sensitive Resources

Pink and chum salmon spawn in Pelican Creek (Stream #113-95-10030) located at the south end of the boardwalk. Fry typically hatch mid-March through mid-May and move to saltwater within a few weeks. Pink salmon concentrate in brackish water along the shoreline through mid-June before moving to deeper water. Fry are particularly sensitive to pollution, and could be impacted by polluted runoff from excavating and pouring the concrete footings, and leaching from wood preservatives use in pilings and over-water structures.

Recommendations

1. Use of creosote-treated wood for pilings and over-water structures is well-documented as a source of toxicity to fish. Creosote contains numerous constituents that are toxic to aquatic organisms including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), phenolic compounds, and nitrogen, sulfur, or oxygenated heterocyclics. Leaching of these constituents continues throughout the life of the wood and has been associated with development of tumors, suppressed immune system, decreased fecundity and abnormal embryonic development. If treated wood must be used, it should be treated with preservatives approved for use in aquatic or marine environments. These include, but are not limited to: Chromated Copper Arsenic (CCA) Type C, Ammoniated Copper Zinc Arsenate (ACZA), Alkaline Copper Quat (ACQ), Copper Boron Azole (CBA) or Copper Azole (CA). The wood should be treated in accordance with best management practices developed by the Western Wood Preservers Institute. If use of less toxic alternatives to creosote-treated wood is not practical, the use of creosote-treated wood needs to be justified based on engineering or cost considerations.

Pelican Boardwalk Repairs October 5, 2006 Page 2

2. Excavation, pouring concrete footings, and piling installation should be prohibited March 15 through June 15 to minimize impacts to salmon fry from polluted runoff and leaching from creosote and newly-poured concrete. If creosote-treated wood is not used, a shorter timing window (March 15 through May 30) is recommended.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Email Cc:

Al Ott, OHMP, Anchorage Joe Donohue, OPMP, Juneau Mark Fink, ADF&G, Anchorage Garth Zimbelman, USACE, Juneau